

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

*Pending claims*

Claims 1 to 239 are pending as filed.

*Claims canceled*

In the instant preliminary amendment, claims 2 to 36, 38 to 43, 45, 46, 48 to 60, 62 to 64, 66 to 71, 73, 74, 76 to 98, 100 to 105, 109 to 111, 113, 115, 117, 120, 121, 123 to 128, 130 to 139, 141 to 143, 145 to 149, 151 to 154, 156 to 177, 179 to 203, 207, 208, 210 to 212, 214, 215, 217 to 221, 223, 225 to 228, 230 to 234, 236-238 are canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Support for the claim amendments

The specification sets forth an extensive description of the invention in the amended claims. For example, support for the amended claims can be found in the claims as filed.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully aver that the all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing **Docket No. 564462005501**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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